

South Carolina Cancer Profile



September 2013

Impact of Cancer in South Carolina

In the United States, 1 in 2 men and 1 in 3 women will develop a life threatening cancer during their lifetime. The American Cancer Society (ACS) estimates that 1,660,290 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in the United States in 2013. This translates to 4,549 new diagnoses each day. Furthermore, 580,350 people are expected to die from cancer in the United States in 2013.

In South Carolina about 27,620 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in 2013 or about 76 new cancer cases diagnosed each day. Furthermore 9,800 South Carolinians will die from cancer in 2013.

Tables 1 and 2 show the number of cases and deaths and the age-adjusted rates for cancers in South Carolina and the United States. The last column shows how SC ranks in comparison to the other states and Washington DC. A rank of 1 means that SC has the highest rate of any state, while a rank of 51 means that SC has the lowest rate of any state.

Table 1. Cancer Incidence in SC and USA, 2010*

	USA	SC		
	Rate	Rate	New Cases	Rank
All	460.5	445.2	23,260	32
Male	502.2	515.0	12,195	25
Female	434.1	395.6	11062	36
White	459.5	443.2	17404	30
Black	471.1	442.3	5428	27

Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population
*Incidence rankings based on National Program of Cancer Registry States only (excludes CT, HI, IA, NM, UT, MN)

Table 2. Cancer Mortality in SC and USA, 2010

	USA	SC		
	Rate	Rate	New Cases	Rank
All	171.8	181.9	9323	14
Male	208.8	229.8	5046	10
Female	145.7	148.6	4277	23
White	171.4	173.5	6799	19
Black	202.9	205.2	2374	23

Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population

Cancers diagnosed in late stages lessen the potential for successful treatment and raise the risk of premature loss of life. Figure 1 shows the percentage of cancers diagnosed in early and late stages of disease in South Carolina.

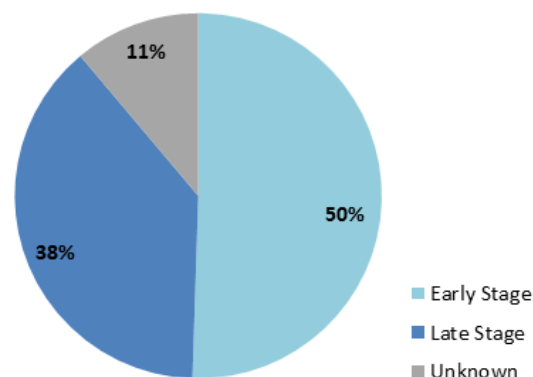


Figure 1. Cancers by Stage at Diagnosis in SC, 2006-2010

Breast Cancer

Breast cancer was the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in South Carolina. South Carolina ranks 15th in the nation for breast cancer deaths. There were **3,395** new female breast cancer cases diagnosed and **641** deaths during 2010 in South Carolina.

Excellent methods of early detection are available for breast cancer. The South Carolina Best Chance Network (BCN) is a federally funded program that provides breast and cervical cancer screening, follow-up and diagnosis for

low-income, uninsured women age 47-64. In 2012, they screened over **7600** women.

Prostate Cancer

Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among men in South Carolina. South Carolina ranks 4th in the nation for prostate cancer deaths. For South Carolina men, **3,299** new prostate cancer cases were diagnosed, and **484** died from the disease in 2010.

The ACS recommends that starting at age 50, men should speak with their doctor about the pros and cons of being tested. A PSA blood test with or without a rectal exam may be decided upon.

Colorectal Cancer

Colorectal cancer is the 4th most common cancer in South Carolina. South Carolina ranks 21st in the nation for colorectal cancer deaths. There were **2,074** new colorectal cancer cases and **890** colorectal cancer deaths in 2010.

Currently, there are five different screening options for colorectal cancer. It is recommended that everyone, beginning at age 50, have a colonoscopy every 10 years.

Lung Cancer

Lung Cancer is the 2nd most common cancer in South Carolina; currently South Carolina ranks 15th in the nation for lung cancer deaths. In South Carolina there were **3,482** new lung cancer cases diagnosed and **2,712** lung cancer deaths in 2010.

Oral Cancer

Oral cancer is the 10th most common cancer in South Carolina. South Carolina ranks 5th in the nation for deaths due to oral cancer. South Carolina had **618** new oral cancer cases diagnosed and **168** deaths in 2010 from this preventable cancer.

Cancer Policies

The South Carolina Comprehensive Cancer Plan 2011-2015 provides a road map for statewide cancer prevention and control strategies through 2015 and is available at www.sccanceralliance.org.

South Carolina's current cigarette tax (57 cents per pack) is among the lowest in the nation (national average \$1.51 per pack). The SC

Tobacco Collaborative and its organizational members, continue to work with the SC State Legislature to enact a reasonable tax rate for tobacco products in South Carolina.

To protect South Carolina workers from secondhand smoke, smoke-free ordinances have been passed in over 50 communities, protecting over 39% of SC's citizens from secondhand smoke at work. The SC Supreme Court has upheld the right of local communities to prohibit smoking in all workplaces. There is increasing interest in promoting smoke-free policies across the state to provide a safe and healthy workplace for all citizens in South Carolina.

More than 50,000 South Carolina Medicaid recipients are now eligible for colorectal cancer screenings through a program administered by the SC Department of Health and Human Services. In 2007, the SC State Health Plan added colorectal cancer screening for its nearly 100,000 employees and their family members 50 years of age and older. In 2008, SC Blue Cross Blue Shield expanded their coverage to provide colorectal screening for its policy holders.

Resources

American Cancer Society
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CDC Wonder Online Database
National Program of Cancer Registries data
<http://wonder.cdc.gov/cancernr.html>



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<http://www.scdhec.gov/administration/phis/scer/SCCCRmain.htm>

